

health care. But, like Napoleon, they are promising everything and delivering nothing.

The unlimited liability in their "lawyer's right to sue" bill will result in over 6 million Americans losing their health care insurance. What type of patient protection is that? Rather than doctors taking care of their health needs, Americans will be finding trial lawyers taking them to the cleaners.

Americans deserve to get the health care they need and when they need it, a real promise we can keep and must deliver.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support a real Patients' Bill of Rights, the bipartisan Fletcher-Peterson Patients' Bill of Rights.

DEMAND THE RELEASE OF GAO ZHAN FROM CHINA

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after a 1-day trial, China convicts a U.S.-based scholar of spying. Let me tell my colleagues who that is. Gao Zhan lives in this area. She is a mother, she is a wife, she is a researcher at the American University. She went to China to simply visit her relatives. She has a 5-year-old son that is a citizen. She has a husband that is a citizen of the United States. They would not allow the United States to sit in her trial and observe.

Gao Zhan needs to be released now. China needs to come into the world arena of friendship and understanding of human rights.

Secretary Colin Powell must demand her release, and we must pass a private bill in this Congress to make sure that Gao Zhan is a citizen of the United States. I have filed such a bill. There is a bill filed in the United States Senate. This bill must be brought forward, and we must demand that China understands that academics is not synonymous to spying. It is unfair. It is a tragedy. Unite this mother with her child; unite this wife with her husband. Unite this legal resident of the United States with her community. Demand Gao Zhan's release now.

SUPPORT A REAL PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll released last week shows that most Americans would oppose the McCain-Kennedy trial lawyers' bill because they know it would increase health costs. When asked point-blank if they are more concerned about suing HMOs or lawsuits driving up their health insurance costs, the majority of Americans said they feared the prospect of skyrocketing costs caused by lawsuits.

This is yet more proof that Americans want a Patients' Bill of Rights that ensures they get the care they need from a doctor they know. Americans want, need and deserve health care reform, not a trial lawyers' bill that would drive people into the ranks of the uninsured.

In short, I am with the American people who favor the responsible health care reform principles of the Fletcher-Peterson Patients' Bill of Rights. Under this bill, more Americans will be insured.

TRIBUTE TO FALLEN OFFICERS J.J. CHESTNUT AND JOHN GIBSON

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise first to thank the Speaker of the House and the majority whip and all of the Members of the House who today, with one voice, rise on this floor to pay tribute to the brave, courageous heroes who gave their lives so that others could live: Officers Gibson and Chestnut. I rise today in sorrow at the loss that occurred here in the people's House 3 years ago today.

In the aftermath of this event, as we gathered around the families of both officers Gibson and Chestnut, we voted never to forget their acts of bravery and to memorialize what they did for us and their country on that day.

Officers Gibson and Chestnut literally saved the lives of countless Members of Congress, our staffs, and countless visitors who pass through our halls every day to visit this shrine to our American democracy. We owe them a gratitude for which words alone do no justice.

These two men, strong and decent, rank in the legion of honor of those who died so that freedom may live in the everyday lives of all Americans. They remind us that all of the officers who work in this building are real heroes of our democracy; they are guardians of our way of life. They are the men and women who face danger every day, and who are pledged to protect this citadel of freedom so that the people's business can be conducted, and so that people can visit this site of our government and take part in our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that I have the honor of being served by two similar plain-clothes officers, and I want to again, as I did 3 years ago, take this opportunity to thank them and all of their colleagues who protect this building and all of us on a daily basis. We will never forget the sacrifice of these two officers. We will always cherish them and their families, and we will never forget that they died so that others could live and be free.

ANWR TECHNOLOGY III

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, opponents of ANWR often hold up a picture of big, grimy, old oil rigs; and they ask this question: Do we want one of these on our precious wildlife refuges? Of course not, but that is the wrong question. The question should be: Can modern technology allow us to drill in the Arctic with absolutely no impact on the wildlife or plant life there? The answer is a resounding yes.

Cutting-edge technology, like horizontal drilling, allows us to reach oil 4 miles away from a surface location. Thirty years ago, it took a 65-acre drill site to slant drill only 3 square miles. Today, a 16-acre drill site can now drill 50 square miles of subsurface. That means that today we can drill 15 times further on a drill site one-fifth the size of what we used when we started developing oil in the Arctic.

We no longer build gravel roads in for oil development there. Instead, companies build ice roads that melt away with spring, leaving no hint that they were ever there. Let us use this amazing technology to help stabilize gasoline prices and make this country more self-reliant.

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, instead of strengthening Social Security, the President has used the surplus for tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Americans. The President's Commission on Social Security has issued a report that tries to scare the public into thinking that sacrificing their guaranteed income is the only solution.

Social Security has allowed generations of retirees to live with independence and dignity, and in more than 60 years Social Security has never once missed a paycheck. Unfortunately, the President wants to privatize Social Security, a proposal that removes a promise that Social Security will be there. Under privatization, funds in the Social Security Trust Fund would be diverted into the stock market, subject to an unpredictable outcome.

Contrary to the report's claims, women and minorities do not do better under privatization. Because women and minorities tend to earn less during their lifetimes, they have less money to invest and accrue for retirement. Social Security guarantees that they will have a secure pension that grows with inflation. Privatization erases that guarantee and replaces it with a fixed, limited income.

Social Security's financial challenges are manageable. They do not warrant the President's radical restructuring. We need measures to preserve and strengthen Social Security, not rescind its guarantee.

□ 1030

TRIBUTE TO RON UNDERWOOD, UNITED STATES PROBATION OFFICER

(Mrs. MYRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ron Underwood will conclude 23 years of distinguished service to the Federal judiciary as a U.S. Probation Officer on August 31 of this year.

He grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from UNCC and a Master's from North Carolina State. He put his education on hold while he went to serve his country in the U.S. Air Force from 1967 until 1971. He began his career as a U.S. Probation Officer on November 6 of 1978. As an officer, he showed great concern for his community and also compassion for the criminal offenders with which he dealt.

Throughout his military service, employment as a U.S. Probation Officer, family and civic responsibilities, Ron has been a model of integrity, hard work and professionalism. His service to his country has been outstanding and deserving of thanks by all of us in Congress.

THE FLETCHER BILL, THE BEST HEALTH CARE PLAN FOR AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, one of the goals that I wanted to accomplish as a Member of Congress is to help make health care more affordable and more accessible.

This week we have a choice between two bills. One of them is the Dingell-Norwood-Ganske bill. That bill seems to be an inner baseball game, intramural game between the affluent trial lawyers, the affluent medical community and the affluent insurance companies on who can sue who. As a result, health care costs, of course, are sure to rise.

On the other hand, we have the Fletcher bill that, unlike the other bill, addresses the issues of affordability and accessibility. It offers a Medical Savings Account so that the insured individual will become responsible and have an incentive to save money on his or her health care. That is one element, a key element, that is missing in our health care delivery service today.

It also helps the uninsured. That brickmason back home who has two or three people on his crew, right now he is priced out of health care. Under the Fletcher bill, there will be more competition and more opportunity for him to buy health care.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the Fletcher health care bill for affordability and accessibility.

THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY POLICY WILL STEER AMERICA SAFELY THROUGH ENERGY CRISIS

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, America needs more energy. The West needs more electricity. The East will need heating oil this winter, just like it did last year. The entire Nation needs more natural gas.

We saw natural gas prices quadruple last winter. We saw seniors and low-income families struggling to heat their homes and still afford groceries. It is likely to happen again this year.

We must conserve energy. Conservation efforts have already made a big difference. They are part of the reason gasoline prices have been dropping.

Yes, we must rely more heavily on clean, renewable fuels. Yes, we must build our energy future around emerging technologies. Yes, we must produce more energy. We must produce more oil. We must produce more natural gas. Our cars still run on gasoline, and many of our homes are heated with natural gas and heating oil. Virtually all of the new generating plants built in the last 10 years in this country use natural gas.

Next week, the House will consider a comprehensive package that does all of this. The bill implements the President's natural energy policy. It creates a blueprint for steering us safely through the energy challenges we face now and the energy challenges we will face this winter and next summer.

There is only one sure way to prevent spikes in energy prices that hurt us all: ample supply.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE MEANINGFUL ACTION ON GLOBAL WARMING

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago I was at the Arctic Wildlife Refuge, where the Bush administration wants to drill for oil.

While we will be debating whether to change that precious intact ecosystem, I wanted to advise Members that we are already changing the Arctic Wildlife Refuge. The reason we are changing it is that we are already causing global climate change, global warming.

What I found at the Arctic ocean is that the ice pack in the Arctic Ocean is shrinking significantly, almost a 50 percent reduction in depth, a 10 percent reduction in coverage.

I went to Denali National Park. The rangers told me that the tree line is moving north already due to global climate change. We are already changing the Arctic.

When the world met in Bonn 2 days ago to try to do something about it,

the Bush administration sent the United States to the bench and did absolutely nothing. We as a leader in democracy abdicated, due to the Bush administration's ostrich like-proposals to do anything about global climate change.

I am urging the Bush administration to act, to lead the country and lead the world to do something meaningful about climate change so we do not destroy the world.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO- GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CANTOR). Pursuant to House Resolution 199 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2506.

□ 1035

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2506) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes, with Mr. THORNBERRY in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, July 19, 2001, the bill had been read through page 1, line 6.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TITLE I—EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

The Export-Import Bank of the United States is authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to such corporation, and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as may be necessary in carrying out the program for the current fiscal year for such corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available during the current fiscal year may be used to make expenditures, contracts, or commitments for the export of nuclear equipment, fuel, or technology to any country other than a nuclear-weapon state as defined in Article IX of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons eligible to receive economic or military assistance under this Act that has detonated a nuclear explosive after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SUBSIDY APPROPRIATION

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, insurance, and tied-aid grants as authorized by section 10 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, \$753,323,000 to remain available until September 30, 2005: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such sums shall remain available until September 30,